



UPDATED MEDIA RELEASE

Detectives Rescue Child from Meth Den

SANTA BARBARA, CA – April 9, 2012

Jorge Desales is in custody. He turned himself in at SBPD on April 6, 2012.

SANTA BARBARA, CA – April 5, 2012

On April 4, 2012 at 8:15 a.m., detectives from the Santa Barbara Police Department executed a search warrant at 518 Myrtle Avenue. In addition to conducting a search of the residence, detectives were also trying to locate and serve an arrest warrant on Jorge Desales, age 33. Desales is wanted in connection with an auto burglary and the use of stolen credit cards. Desales was not present and is still at large.

While on-scene, however, detectives located a rudimentary shed with walls made of tarps in the backyard. On the ground inside the structure was a mattress that was being used by two adults, a male and a female. Also inside was a baby stroller that was being used by a 15-month old boy. The boy was clad only in a very wet diaper and was, for the most part, exposed to the elements given nature of the structure. In the area around the child were two glass meth pipes and a cup that was being used as a urinal. The child had no other clothing and the only food present was some unrefrigerated milk.

The woman inside the shed, Amanda Rose Powers, age 26, is the boy's mother. She was high on methamphetamine, in poor physical condition, and was delusional. Investigation indicates that she and the child spent a portion of the night at that location. Powers was arrested for being under the influence of a controlled substance and booked at Santa Barbara County Jail. Child Welfare Services responded and took custody of the boy.

Anyone with knowledge of the whereabouts of Jorge Desales is asked to contact the Santa Barbara Police Department at (805) 897-2410.



Desales, Jorge

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